DESCRIPTION: The course illustrates the basic techniques (lighting, exposure, composition, color, etc.) used to photograph archaeological sites, architectural monuments and landscapes, as well as works of art and archaeological finds, thereby putting students directly in touch with the city’s material culture and cultural heritage. Students start with a detailed overview of the digital camera’s automatic and manual functions and finally learn the basics about management of files on the computer. The course brings together the technical and aesthetic components through an analysis of some of the more important art historical themes that characterize the contexts that students are photographing.

CREDITS: 3 credits

CONTACT HOURS: 45 hours

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: Spanish

PREREQUISITES: One course in Art History is recommended, but not required.

Students must bring their own digital camera and have its instruction book (a copy can usually be downloaded from the manufacturer’s website). Students should have a digital SLR (single lens reflex) or a high-end compact camera (ex. Nikon P6000-P7000, Canon G11, G12, S95, Olympus Pen Series, Sony NEX 3K, 3D, Panasonic Lumix FZ35, FZ38, LX5) featuring:

- RAW files
- a wide-angle starting from at least 28mm equivalent
- P (program), S (shutter priority) A (aperture priority) M (manual) exposure control setting

Please keep in mind that if you plan on buying the camera, prices are much lower in the U.S. than in Spain.

METHOD OF PRESENTATION:
- Class lectures
- Slide shows
- Shooting sessions at monumental and archaeological sites
- PC lab sessions

REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:
- Class participation: 15%
- Midterm exam: 25%
- Final portfolio: 40%
- Journal: 20%

Final Portfolio
Students are required to keep a digital folder of all work done in the course during the semester so the instructor can review student work and progress. Best photographs are selected and kept in a digital portfolio which is handed in at the end of the semester.

Journal
The journal is intended to keep track of student impressions, observations, strategies used in photo taking and self evaluation of work. The journal is handed in at different stages in the course of the semester.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:
By the end of the course students will be able to:
- Advance in the learning of photography
- Identify form, content, light and materials in works of art
- Develop an understanding for different light contexts
• Be able to choose when and how to take a picture
• Master computer technology to improve digital photography
• Appreciate historical and art historical significance of photographed works

ATTENDANCE POLICY:
Attendance is mandatory for all IES Abroad classes, including course-related excursions. Any exams, tests, presentations, or other work missed due to student absences can only be rescheduled in cases of documented medical or family emergencies. If a student misses more than two classes, the final grade will be reduced by one-third of a letter grade (for example, A- to B+) for every additional unexcused absence.

Punctuality: Students who are late to class on a regular basis will also receive a reduction in their final grade.

CONTENT:
• Slide show of sample images: the diverse types of art subjects in photography (archaeological sites, finds, monuments, art works, etc.). The camera’s main functions. Introduction to the fundamentals of composition.
• Technical analysis and critique of photographs created in the previous session: photo projections, discussion. Introduction to photo enhancement software: understanding the photograph as a computer file - how to process main parameters.
• Technical analysis and critique of photographs created in the previous session: photo projections, discussion, work with photo enhancement software.
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• Technical analysis and critique of photographs created in the previous session: photo projections, discussion, work with photo enhancement software.
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• Last week of class: Final critique. Final assignments due. Preparation for photo exhibition.

**The syllabus distributed in Salamanca will contain details about course-related trips, weekly reading assignments, and exams.**

REQUIRED READINGS:
• The main text will be The Photographer’s Eye: Composition and Design for Better Digital Photos by Michael Freeman.
• Additional articles, primarily written in Spanish, will also be assigned and distributed by the instructor.